



September
1990

Carolina Country[®]

Two Tar Heel co-op pioneers
mark half a century of service
to rural electrification.
Pages 12-13



NC 27599

CHAPEL HILL

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"I thought there had to be a catch! A 20-Pc. Set of these Tropical Paradise towels for just \$29⁹⁹*?"

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2960482

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Home Phone (_____) _____ Date _____

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Please Sign ☒

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*Electrification*

Helping Hand For Third World Villages

The following editorial was written by A. Williams, a director at Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative in Hughesville, MD, is president of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Life has always been hard in Los Guates, a village in the remote highlands of Guatemala. Without electricity, Los Guates was falling ever farther behind the advancing technological world. The village development committee had tried for years to change this; in fact, the plan had been to first bring in electricity. It was not until recently that the people began to believe the darkness and the poverty would finally be lifted.

They raised \$740 toward their dream, only to discover that that was not nearly enough for a national utility, the Empresa Electricas de Guatemala, to extend a power line from the nearby village of Suacite.

Then help came in the form of private donations of cash: Employees and consumers of one of America's 1,000 consumer-owned electric cooperatives held fund-raisers and raised the money. The donations paid for gathering, packing and shipping electrical equipment and materials. Funds, equipment and technical expertise also came from the rural electric systems themselves.

This was made possible through Project SHARE, which was organized in 1989 by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) International Foundation. NRECA is the Washington, DC, service organization for the rural co-ops.

Soon, thanks to Project SHARE, lights will be coming to Los Guates for the first time. Project SHARE was created to help bring the benefits of electricity to the poorest and most remote rural areas of the developing world. Los Guates certainly fits that description—a community so impoverished that electrification was considered infeasible by the larger national development projects.

There are countless other villages like Los Guates in developing nations. They desperately

want electricity, not only for comfort and convenience, but also as a catalyst for economic progress.

Many rural villages in Third World countries have applied to Project SHARE for assistance. Letters have come from Nepal, Zaire, India, Bangladesh. But the foundation needs more support from U.S. rural electric systems and their consumers if these dreams of electricity are to become reality.

Rural electric cooperatives are pitching in to support the foundation. At Tri-County Electric Cooperative in Azle, TX, co-op employees sold barbeque lunches to consumer-members at the annual meeting, raising more than \$2,000. The foundation needs more of these kinds of fund-raising events directly involving the members.

As we make this appeal for pledges for Project SHARE, I think of the tremendous response made by the hundreds of rural electric systems and their rural consumers last year when they donated funds, clothing and other material for relief of the victims of Hurricane Hugo in the Carolinas. To me, that was not just a huge outpouring of compassion but the essence of the cooperative philosophy.

In endorsing Project SHARE last year, the NRECA Board of Directors also endorsed the concept that the private sector, including America's rural electric systems, have a "fundamental and direct responsibility to help the people of the Third World develop skills and abilities that will enable them to solve their own problems and establish democratic institutions such as cooperatives."

This is a worthy and workable goal that challenges us to take a closer look at our developing world.

Village electrification is a sure way of lifting people up out of poverty—a way of bringing peace and stability to the troubled corners of the world.

To make a donation to Project SHARE, send your check to NRECA, International Foundation, c/o Sam Bunker, 1800 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

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Here/There/
Everywhere



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Co-op Pioneers
Mark 50 Years of
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Electric Co-ops
Honor 4-H Contest
Winners

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Advertising that does not conform to these standards or that is deceptive or misleading is never knowingly accepted.

Should you encounter advertising that does not comply with these standards, please inform the editor at P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611, (919) 872-0800.

Cover: Alan Cheek's "Bodie Island Light"

Our cover this month is an original painting by Alan Cheek titled "Bodie Island Light." It is the latest release in Cheek's series of signed and-numbered limited edition prints depicting North Carolina lighthouses.

Cheek, a Graham native who has been painting professionally several years, has a degree in fine arts from UNC-Chapel Hill. He made his home in the Carteret County community of Marshallberg. He and his wife, Alice, own and operate Down East Gallery in Beaufort.

The acrylic gouache painting has been reproduced with an image size of 14 inches by 24 1/4 inches on 19-inch-by-28-inch art stock. Copies are \$85 each, plus \$4.25 for sales tax and \$6 for shipping.

To order a print or for more information about this and other paintings, write to him at Down East Gallery, P.O. Box 1009, Beaufort, NC 28516. For mail orders using major credit cards, call the gallery at (919) 728-4410.

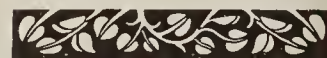
Other prints in the lighthouse series include "Old Baldy," "The Hatteras Light," "Lookout," and "The Ocracoke Light."



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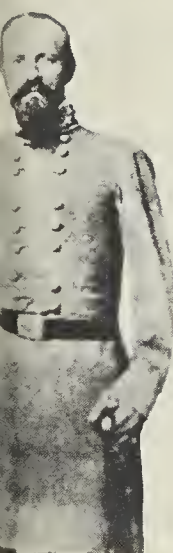


American Heart
Association

This space provided as a public service



THEIR FINAL TEST WAS TO KILL EACH OTHER



Confederate Major General Franklin Gardner led cavalry into battle at Shiloh against a former West Point classmate: Union General Ulysses S. Grant.

For the West Point cadets of 1857, school ties were torn asunder by the outbreak of America's bloodiest war. Sixty percent fought for the Union, forty percent for the Confederacy.

Across the country, friends, neighbors, even families, took up arms against each other. And America became her own deadliest enemy.

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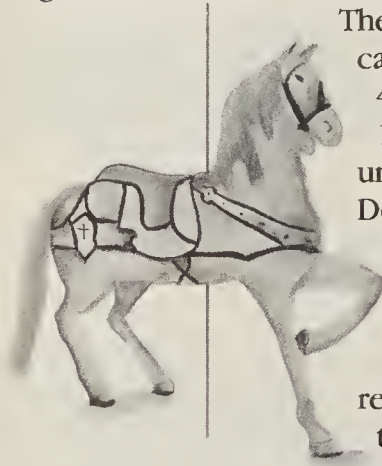


EDITOR'S LETTER

Dear Readers,

Our July cover featuring the carousel at Raleigh's Pullen Park prompted Mrs. Geraldine Horton of Burlington to write, pointing out that her city also has a restored Dentzel menagerie carousel that's still operating.

Only about 20 of the units are currently in use throughout the country, according to background materials, Mrs. Horton provided.



The Burlington City Park carousel, which features 46 animals, was built in 1910. The Pullen Park unit, a circa 1900 Dentzel menagerie, is an authentic "trolley-park" carousel.

However, Burlington officials have no records regarding where that city's unit was first used. They have deter-

mined only that it was in operation as early as the late teens in Oak Harbour, OH. The City of Burlington bought it from an amusement park in Genoa, OH, in 1948. It was restored in 1981-83.

The Pullen Park Dentzel operated in Raleigh's Bloomsbury Park from 1912 to 1921. The City of Raleigh bought it in 1921 and moved it to Pullen Park.

Both carousels have been listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Burlington carousel is now operating only on weekends through Halloween. Hours are Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 7 p.m.

The Raleigh unit is open through September from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, from 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and from 1 to 8 p.m. Sunday. From Oct. 1 to 28, the hours will be the same except that the Monday through Friday closing time will be 7:30 p.m. From Oct. 29 through Nov. 25, it will be open weekends only: Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 6:30 p.m.

Mrs. Horton, who receives *Carolina Country* in Burlington because her family owns property in the mountains that's served by Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation, Lenoir, said

her city's carousel "is beautiful and a great source of pride to us, as well as a joy for our little ones."

She pointed out that she looks forward to the magazine and reads it "with much interest," adding that she especially enjoyed the July "Grits" column about Jeanne Robertson of Burlington.

"Her parents were good friends of ours and I've known Jeanne since they moved here from Alabama—a great person." (For more news of our former Miss North Carolina-turned-professional-speaker, see this month's "Grits," page 38.)



An item in the August "Grits" column, may have raised a question about its reference to a *Carolina Country* reader who lives in Cherokee County and is served by a Georgia rural electric cooperative.

How is it, you might have wondered, that a consumer-member of an out-of-state co-op receives this publication?

It's a special arrangement between *Carolina Country* and Blue Ridge Mountain Electric Membership Corporation, Young Harris, GA. The co-op distributes the magazine to its members who live in North Carolina. The EMC serves about 7,500 such members in Cherokee and Clay Counties. Its members in Georgia's Fannin, Towns and Union Counties receive *Georgia* magazine, our counterpart for the Peach State.

Blue Ridge Mountain EMC serves about 20,000 members in the states.



Here's a postscript to the item that appeared in this column in November regarding the magazine's cover illustration back in November, 1960.

The publication, which was then known as *The Carolina Farmer*, featured a cover photo by Max Tharpe. The "cover note" inside said that the photo showed a farm scene near Boone. There was no identification of the farm or the farmer shown in the photo.

Two of our readers had written about the cover in recent years. Lucy Parlier of Rt. 1, Lenoir, wrote that she'd liked the photo so much she kept her copy until it had become "worn and torn." Earlier, Mrs. R. D. Rupard of Gatlinburg, TN, had written about the photo because she thought the man in the scene might be her grandfather.

Now, her son, Larry D. Rupard of Knoxville, has provided the necessary identifications:

"The picture on the cover of the November, 1960, magazine was of my great grandfather," he wrote. "His name was Loronza Dow Ward. The picture was taken on what is now Highway 321 in Sugar Grove, NC, between Valle Crusis and Butler. He lived on the Watauga River. The river runs behind and to the right of the barn. A big bridge was built long after this picture was taken."

Best regards,

Owen Bishop

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Installing the radio switch costs you nothing and your satisfaction is guaranteed. So if you're not participating yet, call your EMC today and ask about load management. And tune in the radio program where every listener really is a winner.

Tune Into Load Management.





HERE, THERE & EVERYWHERE

Bertie County Hosts Festival

A Chicken-On-The-Chowan Festival is set for Oct. 24 on the banks of the Chowan River in Bertie County.

The musical group, the Embers will provide entertainment.

Tickets for the event are \$12.50 each and can be purchased by sending a check to the Windsor Area Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 572, Windsor, NC 27983. Phone: (919) 794-4277.

Foundation Offers Free Spruce Trees

The National Arbor Day Foundation is now offering 10 free Colorado Blue Spruce trees to each person who joins the foundation.

The organization encourages tree-planting throughout the nation. The membership fee is \$10 a year.

The trees will be shipped postpaid to new members during October, the prime time for planting the Blue Spruce. The trees, which are silver blue-green in color can be used for privacy screening, as energy-saving wind-breaks or as living Christmas trees.

To join, send a check for \$10 to Ten Spruce Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410.

Festival Planned In Highlands

Mountain craftsmen will be selling their goods at the "Christmas in October" craft festival, Oct. 6, at the Woodruff Civic Center in Highlands.

The annual festival is designed so that all monies go directly to the artists.

For more informa-

tion, contact Betty A. Simmons, craft fair chairman, at (704) 526-3936.

Streets Of Ramseur Site Of Fall Festival

Main Street in Ramseur will be the site of the Second Annual Fall Festival Oct. 20.

A full day of food, music and crafts will be in store for visitors.

For more information, contact the Main Street Merchants Association, Ramseur Fall Festival, P.O. Box 315, Ramseur, NC 27316. Phone: (919) 824-8646.



Wildlife Art Show Set For Oct. 26-28

Wildlife art lovers will converge on New Bern, Oct. 26-28, for the Third Annual North Carolina Wildlife and Sportsman's Show.

The show will feature numerous wildlife art exhibits, including paintings, decoys, sculptures and photographs. In addition, the event will include a special gun and knife show, boat show and duck- and goose-calling contests.

Daily admission to the show is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students. Proceeds from the show will benefit Ducks Unlimited and other conservation groups.

For more information, contact the New Bern Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Drawer C, New Bern, NC 28563. Phone: (919) 637-3111.



King Mackerel Tournament Offers \$25,000 Top Prize

A first-prize catch of \$25,000 is waiting for lucky fishermen in the 12th Annual U. S.

Open King Mackerel Tournament, Oct. 4-7, in Southport.

The tournament, which is offering \$100,000 in cash prizes, has attracted more than 500 participants yearly. It offers a total of more than 50 prizes, with 10 of them amounting to \$1,000 or more.

Entry fee per boat is \$240. For more information, contact the tournament at Rt. 5, Box 52, Southport, NC 28461. Phone: (919) 457-5787.

European Theatre Group To Perform In Dallas

Ta Fantastika, a black-light theatre company with its roots in Czechoslovakia, will perform Oct. 26 at Gaston College in Dallas.

The company, which uses ultraviolet lights to project a surrealistic vision, will perform the show, "A Dream," at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$3.

For more information, call (704) 922-6247 or (704) 922-6254.

"Cotton Ginning Days" Scheduled

Visitors can step back in time at

"Cotton Ginning Days," Oct. 12-14, in Gaston County in Dallas.

Exhibitors from throughout the state will be on hand to display antique machinery and engines. Festivities begin at 8 a.m. each day.



For more information, contact the Gaston County Division of Recreation and Parks, P.O. Box 1578, Gastonia, NC 28053, or phone Ray Medley at (704) 864-7321.



HERE, THERE & EVERYWHERE

Antiques Sale
New Bern
 Antique dealers
 three states will
 bring their goods
 Third Annual
 Bern Antique
 Oct. 20-21, held
 conjunction with
 chrysanthemum
 al.
 show, spon-
 by the New

Bern Preservation
 Foundation, will
 include antique toys,
 dolls, glass, silver and
 a variety of other
 items.

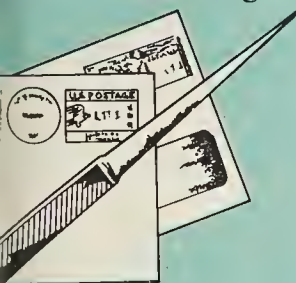
Admission to the
 show is \$2.50, which
 covers both days.

For more informa-
 tion, contact the New
 Bern Preservation
 Foundation, 510

Letter Writers Sought For "Mail Call" To Military

Military Mail Call, a non-profit organi-
 zation now working on its 1990 Christmas
 Mail Call, enlists laymen in an effort to get
 cards and letters to military personnel
 "back home."

More than 150,000 men and women
 in the armed forces around the world
 received letters through the program last



Christmas—
 many of them
 from thoughtful
 North Carolina
 residents.

Elizabeth B.
 Thacker of Ruffin
 was the top Tar

individual letter writer. She sent out
 6 letters in 1989.

A number of North Carolina organiza-
 tions were among the top participants.
 They were: Disabled American Veterans
 Post #63, Ruffin; Memorial United Meth-
 odist Church, Thomasville; N. C. Reserve
 Officers Association Ladies Club, Greens-
 boro; Pfeiffer College, Misenheimer;
 Writen High School, Lenoir; Bartlett-
 cey High School, Yanceyville; A. L. Stan-
 k Middle School, Hillsborough and
 ner-Stem Elementary School, Butner.
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 32709, Christmas, FL 32709.

Pollock St., P.O. Box
 207, New Bern, NC
 28560. Phone:
 (919) 633-6448.

Albemarle Fair To Feature Top Area Craftsmen

Skilled artists will
 be demonstrating
 their talents at the
 32nd Annual Albe-
 marle Craftsman's Fair,
 Oct. 26-28, in Eliza-
 beth City.

The fair will be at
 the Knobbs Creek
 Recreation Park and
 will feature more than
 50 exhibitors. Many

of the fair's craftsmen
 will be displaying
 their talents for the
 public.

For more informa-
 tion, contact the
 Albemarle Crafts-
 man's Fair at P.O. Box
 1301, Elizabeth City,
 NC 27909.

Oyster Festival Set For Oct. 20-21

More than 20,000
 people are expected
 for the 10th Annual
 North Carolina Oyster
 Festival, Oct. 20-21, in
 Brunswick County.

The festival features an
 array of seafood and
 family activities, and
 will be held at the Sea
 Trail Plantation near
 Sunset Beach.

The festival will
 also include the North
 Carolina Oyster
 Shucking Champion-
 ship—with some of
 the nation's top
 shuckers participating.

For more informa-
 tion, contact the
 South Brunswick
 Chamber of Com-
 merce, P.O. Box 1380,
 Shallotte, NC 28459.
 Phone: (919)
 754-6644.



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HERE, THERE & EVERYWHERE

Tryon Palace Plans Senior Citizens Day

A Senior Citizens Day and Mum Festival are scheduled at historic Tryon Palace in New Bern Oct. 19, featuring a Senior Stroll and special entertainment. The Tryon gardens will be open from 9:30 to 5:30 with no charge for older North Carolinians.

The event is part of an annual three-day festival at Tryon Palace and in down-

town New Bern, sponsored by the Tryon Palace Restoration and Gardens and the North Carolina Division of Aging.

For more information, call June Barbour at (919) 733-8390.

Busy October Set In Franklin

A busy schedule of events is planned at Franklin in October.

The 3rd Annual Townfest will be Oct. 12-13. Food, music and crafts

will be featured. On Oct. 13, the 8th Annual Leaf Lookers Clogging Jamboree is scheduled.

The Leaf Lookers Gemboree is set for Oct. 17-20. More than 20 gem dealers will be on hand showing finished jewelry.

For more information on the events, contact the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce, 180 Porter St., Franklin, NC 28734. Phone: (704) 524-3161.



Seafood Festival Set For Oct. 5-7

Crab races, a "seafood sampler" tent and "flounder fling" will be just part of the program scheduled for the North Carolina Seafood Festival, Oct. 5-7, in Morehead City.

Other events will include a parade, arts and crafts, fireworks, live entertainment and beach gardens.

For more information, write or call Carol S. Lohr, N. C. Seafood Festival, P.O. Box 36, Morehead City, NC 28557. Phone: (919) 726-2079.



"Tobacco Row" by "Cotton" Ketchie

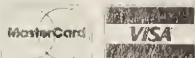
IMAGE SIZE 12 $\frac{3}{8}$ " x 18 $\frac{3}{8}$ " ON 16 $\frac{3}{8}$ " x 22 $\frac{1}{8}$ " STOCK

Each full-color reproduction is printed on 100% rag paper and packaged in a handsome portfolio for its protection. "Tobacco Row" is limited to an edition of only 750 signed and numbered reproductions.

Signed and Numbered Print	\$75.00
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	\$83.75

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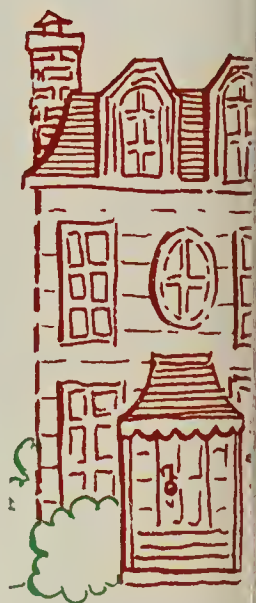


"Day In Olde Tarborough" Set

Tours of the historic homes and buildings in Edgecombe County will be the highlight of "A Day in Olde Tarborough," Oct. 6, in Tarboro.

The day of activities will include colonial craft demonstrations and traditional music. Tickets are \$7.50.

For more information, contact Edgecombe County Cultural Arts Council, 130 Bridgers St., Tarboro, NC 27886. Phone: (919) 823-4159.



In Lexington 5,000 Will Feast On Tons Of Barbecue

Can you imagine five tons of barbecue? That's what will be awaiting visitors at the 10th Annual Lexington Barbecue Festival, Oct. 27, in downtown Lexington.

About 65,000 people are expected to participate in this year's festival, with six of the top chefs serving up their best barbecue to hungry visitors. For a change of pace, other activities will also be available.

Barbecue has been a popular delicacy in Lexington since 1919, when the first barbecue restaurant opened in a tent near the Davidson County Courthouse.

The 1990 festival will feature a Hog Calling contest and more than 150 craftsmen displaying and selling their works. Varied entertainment will also be in ample supply, with performances scheduled at three separate stages. The annual Festival of Pigs is set for the afternoon of Oct. 26. This year's festival will be marked by the unveiling of a special signed-and-numbered limited edition print saluting the event. The print, titled "Hats Off To The Barbecue Festival," is an original painting by Suellen McCrary High Point, who designed the 1989 festival's

poster. Festival officials commissioned her to prepare the painting/print for use in connection with the 1990 festival.

The image depicts the hats of the six participating barbecue chefs and the festival's grandstand area.



The artist, a former resident of Davidson County, is an art and design graduate of Appalachian State University.

The print is priced at \$25 each, plus \$3 for shipping on mail orders. Its image size is 18 inches by 24 inches on paper measuring 21 inches by 28 inches.

To order a copy of the print or for more information about the festival, write or call the Lexington Barbecue Festival at P.O. Box 1642, Lexington, NC 27293. Phone: (704) 243-2629. Toll-free: (800) 222-5579.

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Pioneers Mark 50 Years Of Service

Two EMCs Celebrate Dual Milestones

Two of North Carolina's Electric Membership Corporations (EMCs) are currently celebrating dual milestones in their history of providing basic electric service to rural Tar Heel families.

In each case, the EMC is marking its 50th Anniversary while also saluting a member of its Board of Directors who has served the co-op for half a century.

The two men are the first electric co-op directors in North Carolina to complete 50 years of service.

Kesler C. Butler of South River EMC, Dunn, reached that milestone in June—just a few weeks before Joe Pendry of Surry-Yadkin EMC, Dobson, achieved it.

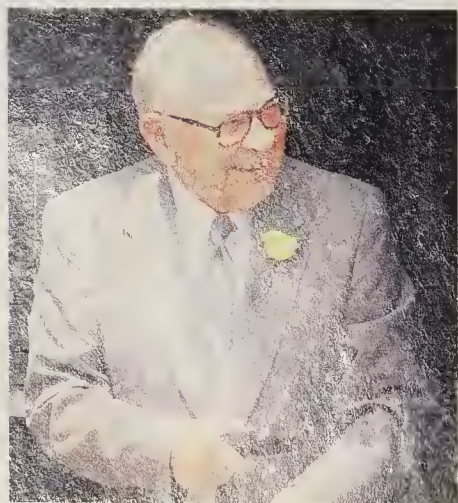
See related item in "Grits," page 38.

As young men who wanted electricity to serve their rural farms, they both joined the early movement to electrify the countryside with the help of the Rural Electrification Administration—Butler in Cumberland County and Pendry in Yadkin County.

In the following profiles, they recall those efforts and other highlights of their years in the rural electric program.

South River EMC's Butler: 'Still Excited' About Serving Co-op

Kesler C. Butler may be the "dean" of North Carolina's electric co-op directors but he has no intention of resting on the laurels of his half-century of service to rural electrification.



At 73, he says he's just as interested in contributing to the program as he was back in 1940 when he became one of the founding directors of South River Electric Membership Corporation, Dunn.

"I'm still excited about the business of South River EMC," he said. "I get a lot of satisfaction out of serving rural people."

Butler, who has served as president of the Board of Directors at the co-op for the past 33 years, is the first director of a Tar Heel EMC to mark 50 years in office. He admits it's an important milestone but doesn't see it as a signal that he ought to step down.

"I've thought about retiring, but there's never been a good time. Over the years, my interest has kept increasing and I keep seeing the good things that have come from the EMC."

Marvin O. Marshall, the co-op's executive vice president and general manager, said Butler is "very knowledgeable about his work on the board. He knows how to conduct a well-run business meeting and get things done. He's extremely informed in his community. If there's a problem in his area, he knows about it—we can work to correct it."

Fifty years ago, a 23-year-old Butler got involved in the movement to bring electricity to rural areas of Cumberland and Sampson Counties. Butler's main concern was getting electric service to his farm near Fayetteville.

From the first organizational meeting in Stedman to the chartering of the co-op, Butler remained active in this effort. When the EMC began operating, Butler agreed to devote "a few years" to the co-op's board.

After 50 years in the job, he's still going strong—especially now that he's retired from his career as a farmer and highway engineer. He has also served on the boards of Cape Fear Valley Hospital, Cape Fear Baptist Church and Gray's Creek Ruritan Club.

"I've gained a lot of satisfaction from serving the people for so many years. I've accumulated a lot of friends."

Butler retired from work in 1982, and then has been enjoying retirement with his wife Gertrude. He likes to tend to his garden and play a little golf when he can. A grandfather of three, Butler is still active in community and civic work—and, of course, the co-op.

He believes the nation's electric co-ops face their greatest challenges in the future, but he wants to help South River deal with them.

"The issues affecting co-ops are more critical than ever," he said. "Our country is becoming more urban. Rural people don't have the political power we once did. We have to continue to tell people about the importance of rural electrification. 'We have a generation that doesn't know about hand pumps and oil lamps. We need to educate them about what rural electrification has done.'"

South River EMC paid special tribute to Butler in recent months, recognizing his contributions to the co-op.

Last year, the EMC's newest substation in the Gray's Creek area was named in his honor. Earlier this year, the co-op established scholarships in his name at four community colleges in the EMC's territory: Fayetteville Technical College, Sampson Community College, Johnston Community College and Central Community College. The scholarships have a combined value of \$10,000.

"To be a co-op director, you need a good knowledge of business—probably more so than when we started," Butler said. "You need to be active in your community, educated and have a well-rounded outlook on things."

Pendry: 'Proud' To Be Involved In The Affairs Of Surry-Yadkin EMC

You might say Joe Pendry has "seen it all" at Surry-Yadkin Electric Membership Corporation, Dobson. He's been a driving force for the co-op for the past 50 years.

From the first organizational meeting 50 years ago to the present, Pendry has been an energetic member of the EMC's Board of Directors. A 79-year-old resident of Boone, Pendry was a young farmer who wanted to get electricity for his farm a century ago when the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) was set up to extend power lines to rural areas.

He soon became one of the key movers in the local effort to establish a member-owned electric co-op.

"We were out day and night signing up people," he recalled. "We got a pretty good response. But one problem we had was that people thought they couldn't pay a \$1.50 monthly power bill. Other folks didn't pay the \$5 membership fee."

Pendry visited one neighbor who was signing up people to get electricity from an investor-owned utility. In those days, some power companies required customers to pay for installation of power lines and to purchase numerous household appliances.

"Many folks didn't have that kind of money," Pendry said. "I didn't have it myself."

But the REA program didn't require such an investment and Pendry decided to be sure his neighbor knew that. When they parted that night, his neighbor had given up his work with the investor-owned utility and had joined up with the co-op. Pendry continues to use the same low-key

influence on people that has earned the respect of his community throughout the years.

"I don't think there is a director around who has a better rapport with people than Joe Pendry," said J. Kelly Hutchens, manager at Surry-Yadkin EMC. "He has worked hard for the entire membership. People know they can trust him."

A simple but effective philosophy guides Pendry's efforts on behalf of the co-op.

"You've got to be honest and interested," he said. "You've got to learn to hold your temper. Someone is always going to say something you don't like."

Pendry's common-sense manner has served him well over the years. Even when members complain, he doesn't get ruffled. And the encounters often give him good stories to tell.

"I had some neighbors who always complained that their power bill was too high. They wanted to get off Surry-Yadkin EMC lines," he said. "So they built a house in Duke Power Company's territory."

"Not too long afterwards, they came and told me that they wanted to get back on the co-op's lines, and asked how they might do it. I told them to build another house, but this time build it in our territory. It was that simple."

When the co-op was formed, Pendry was surprised he was asked to be on the board.

"I didn't expect to get involved in all this."

He's been involved ever since. A father of five, grandfather of eight and a great-grandfather, Pendry and his wife of 56 years, Opal, remain active. Although his sons now do the farming, Pendry keeps busy with a landscaping company he operates. But his longest-running concern has been Surry-Yadkin EMC.

"I got sort of attached to co-op work," he said. "I wasn't drawing a salary, but I just enjoyed doing my part."

Even Pendry has been surprised by the EMC's growth over the years—growth that he couldn't envision when he drove down country roads signing up members back in the '40s.

"The EMC has outgrown my imagination," he said. "I've been proud to be a part of it."



—Text and photos by Randy Wheelless

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Co-op Month Programs Held Across The State

Parades, speakers and meal functions are scheduled at seven locations across North Carolina in October to mark the 1990 observance of Co-op Month. The events are sponsored by the Cooperative Council of North Carolina.

For more information, write or call the Council at P. O. Box 10426, Raleigh, NC 27605. Phone: (919) 834-5544.

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Oct. 3—Lenoir. The Southern States Percheron Hitch parade and bar-
becue. The parade begins at 4 p.m. with the barbecue set for 5 p.m.
at the Caldwell County Fairgrounds.

Oct. 4—Waynesville. Dave Rowe, manager of member and public rela-
tions at Randolph Electric Membership Corporation, Asheboro, will
address an 8:30 a.m. breakfast at Lake Junaluska's Lambuth Inn.
Rowe is a former professional football player.

Oct. 5—Albemarle. Southern States Percheron Hitch parade and bar-
becue. Parade starts at 4 p.m.; barbecue, at 5 p.m. in the Stanly Agri-
Civic Center.

Oct. 16—Burlington. State Supt. of Public Instruction Bob Etheridge
will address an 8:30 a.m. breakfast at the Ramada Inn.

Oct. 17—Clinton. Billy Ray Hall, president of the North Carolina Rural
Economic Development Center, will address an 8:30 a.m. breakfast
at Coharie Country Club.

Oct. 18—Morehead City. Attorney Nelson W. Taylor will address an
11:30 a.m. luncheon at the Atlantic Beach Sheraton.

Oct. 24—Williamston. Dave Rowe will address an 8:30 a.m. breakfast at
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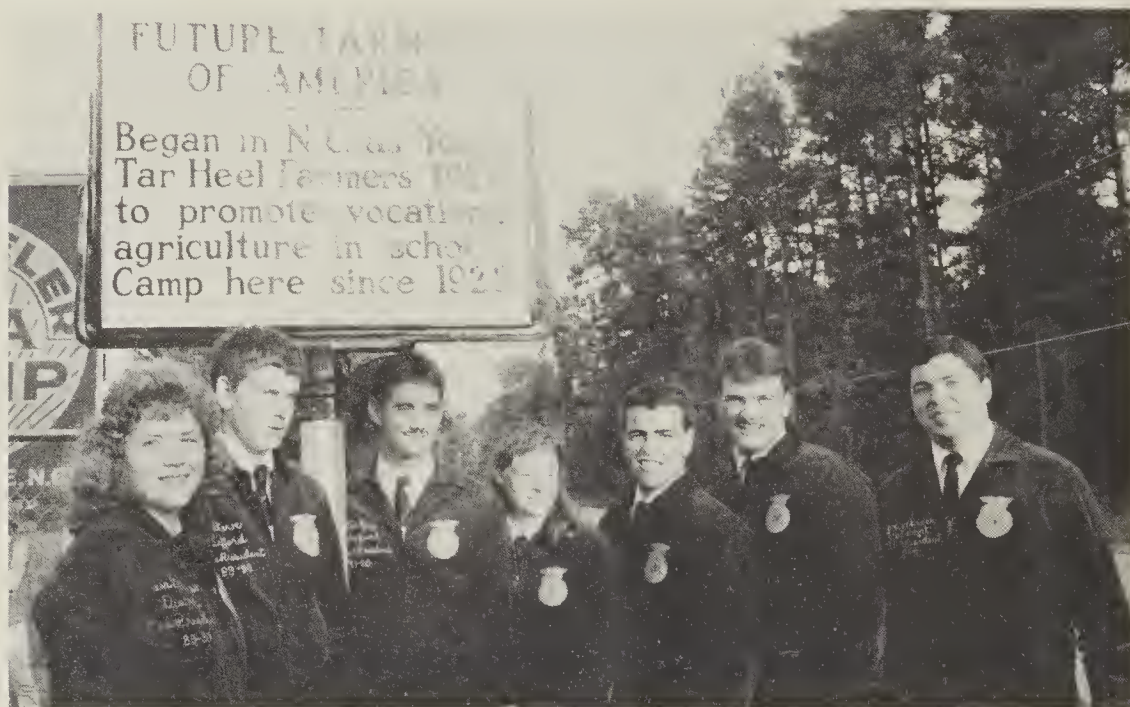


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Marker Salutes Start Of FFA Organization

A national officer joins North Carolina Future Farmers of America officers to celebrate the unveiling of state historical marker at R. J. Peele FFA Camp at White Lake.

The July unveiling ceremony was part of a statewide FFA leadership workshop at the camp. Left to right are Teresa Williamson of Fremont, Steve Sifford of Rockwell, Wesley Barefoot of Dunn, Kelly Butler of Mebane, Artie Chapman of Lake Toxaway, Brian Wood of Raeford and National FFA Vice President Dan Schroer of Ohio.

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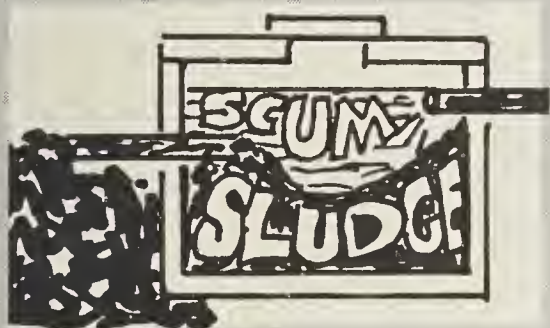
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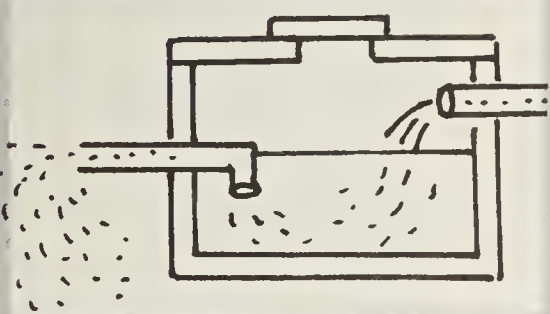
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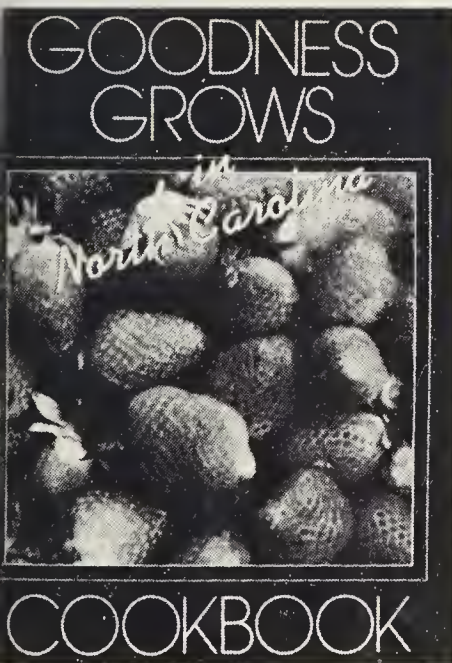


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Goodness Grows Country Store Set To Return With A Festive Yuletide Decor

Ample proof that North Carolina produces a wide variety of top-quality food will be on display in the Kerr Scott Building during the 1990 North Carolina State Fair, Oct. 12-21.

For the third straight year, the N. C. Department of Agriculture (NCDA) "Goodness Grows in North Carolina" program will feature home grown foodstuffs in a special exhibit area.

This year's backdrop will be a variation on the country store exhibit that made its debut in 1989 after the program used a barn scene in 1988.

The 1990 version of the store will be "bigger and better than ever" with an attractive Christmas theme, according to Wayne Miller, NCDA's director of marketing.

Agriculture Commissioner Jim Graham said "From the beginning, this has proven to be one of the biggest attractions at the State Fair, with people by the thousands coming through this special exhibit. And we expect the 1990 version to be even more popular."

One new feature of the country store will be a bona fide, old-fashioned post office where fairgoers can mail letters with a special Goodness Grows cancellation. It will be manned by regular postal employees and offer collector envelopes.

Nostalgia buffs will be particularly interested in the sets of collector postcards being printed especially for the 1990 fair. They will feature a photograph of the 1884 State Fair, a line drawing of the Goodness Grows country store and a color photograph of the famous waterfall that was a fixture at the fair from 1946 until the mid-1960's.

The country store will offer some free gifts and will sell food items, gift boxes of North Carolina products and other merchandise.

Exhibits of weaving and basket making, along with other handicrafts, will be featured at the exhibit, said Mrs. Teresa Hamby, who has been coordinator of the Goodness Grows promotion from its inception four years ago.

She said the country store is designed to appeal to people of all ages.



This line drawing of the "Goodness Grows in North Carolina" country store at the N. C. State Fair is one of three images to be featured on collector postcards that will be sold at the fair this year. They will be sold in sets of three at \$1 per set.

Little Jimmy Dickens Will Perform At Oct. 16 Senior Citizens Festival

Older folks from across North Carolina will be clapping their hands and moving their feet as they enjoy a musical program featuring Little Jimmy Dickens, Grand Ole Opry star and the music that won him a place in the Country Music Hall of Fame.

The program will be part of the 29th Senior Citizens Fun Festival, which is scheduled for 10 a.m., Oct. 16, at its customary place in Dorton Arena.

Superintendent June Barbour, who is with the co-sponsoring Division of Aging in the N. C. Department of Human Resources, pointed out that all Tar Heels who are 65 and older get free admission to the state fair, and its Senior Citizens Fun Festival. They need only show proof of age.

"The free admission applies on the day of the festival and every other day of the fair," she said.

From its inception the Senior Day has attracted older North Carolinians by the hundreds to Dorton Arena. For more information, call Mrs. Barbour at (919) 733-8390.

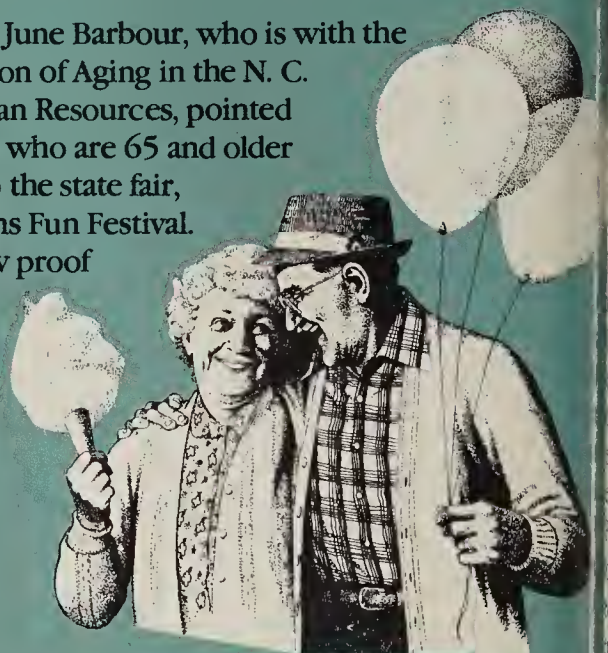




Chart-Topping Entertainers To Perform At Dorton Arena

Performances by top country and pop stars—new and old—will be featured on Dorton Arena concert stage at the 1990 North Carolina State Fair, Oct. 12-21, in Raleigh.

The stars will include three chart-topping singers who are in contention for major honors in the 1990 Country Music Association awards program.

They are Clint Black, whose big hits include "Killing Time;" Garth Brooks, who is drawing interest from music fans with his song, "The Chase;" and Patty Loveless, who recorded the hit tune, "Chains."

The State Fair entertainment slate begins Oct. 12 with country star Earl Kluge performing many of his hits. The famed 1950s group The Platters will perform Oct. 13 while country comedian Jerry

Clower and the gospel group Gold City will perform Oct. 14. Garth Brooks will appear Oct. 15; Patty Loveless, Oct. 16 and Clint Black, Oct. 17.

The Desert Rose Band will take the stage Oct. 18. Vern Gosdin, who has recorded such country hits as "Chiseled In Stone," will perform Oct. 19.

Michael Damian, who recently topped the pop charts with "Rock On," will appear Oct. 20. Damian is also featured on the daytime soap opera, "The Young and the Restless." North Carolina native Ronnie Milsap, who has hit both the pop and country charts during the past decade, will wrap up the concert series Oct. 21. Milsap's hit records include "Smoky Mountain Rain" and "It Was Almost Like A Song."



Admission to the arena shows is free, but seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. All shows are set for 7 p.m.

The arena doors open at 6 p.m.

To Recycling Projects Target Soft Drink Cans

Visitors to the 1990 North Carolina State Fair will have opportunities to demonstrate their interest in a clean environment by tossing empty soft drink cans into special recycling bins.

About 100 bright orange bins will be placed throughout the fairgrounds under a project led by Raleigh's Sanderson High School Band and its Club.

These bins, which will be designed to conveniently accept only aluminum cans, will be clearly marked for this purpose. The cans will be collected for recycling by club members and volunteers, with proceeds supporting the club's activities.

Meanwhile, fairgoers will be able to use empty Pepsi Cola product cans as a ticket for admission to the event on "Pepsi Day," Oct. 17. Free admission will be offered in exchange for empty cans.

Cans collected in this way will be sold for recycling, with proceeds to support Keep North Carolina Clean and Beautiful.



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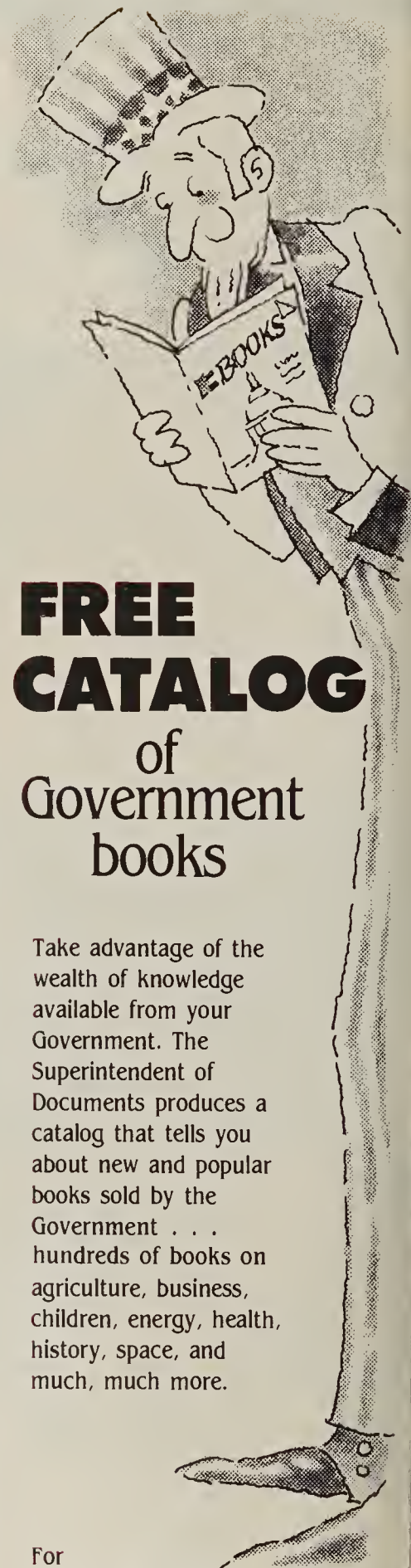
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Annual Meetings Calendar

Date	Electric Membership Corporation	Time	Location
September			
29	Tideland, Pantego	Registration: 1:30 p.m. Business Meeting: 3:00 p.m.	Beaufort County Community College, Washington
October			
1	Cape Hatteras, Buxton	Registration: 7:00 p.m. Business Meeting: 8:00 p.m.	Cape Hatteras High School, Buxton
6	Brunswick, Shallotte	Registration: 8:00 a.m. Business Meeting: 10:30 a.m.	Shallotte Middle School, Shallotte
6	Surry-Yadkin, Dobson	Registration: 8:00 a.m. Business Meeting: 10:30 a.m.	Surry Central High School, Dobson
6	Union, Monroe	Registration: 7:30 a.m. Business Meeting: 10:30 a.m.	Wingate College, Wingate
8	Four County, Burgaw	Registration: 6:00 p.m. Business Meeting: 7:30 p.m.	Union High School, Near Clinton
13	Crescent, Statesville	Registration: 8:00 a.m. Business Meeting: 10:00 a.m.	MacGray Auditorium, Statesville Senior High School, Hwy. 115, Statesville
13	Davidson, Lexington	Registration: 9:30 a.m. Business Meeting: 10:15 a.m.	Central Davidson Senior High School, Hwy. 47, South of Lexington
16	Lumber River, Beaufort	Registration: 4:30 p.m. Business Meeting: 7:00 p.m.	Givens Performing Arts Center, Pembroke State University, Pembroke
27	Rutherford, Forest City	Registration: 10:00 a.m. Business Meeting: 11:00 a.m.	Freedom High School, Morganton



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Conference Draws Record Crowd To Charlotte

A record crowd of more than 400 electric cooperative personnel from across the country gathered in Charlotte recently to attend a national member services and communications conference.

The three-day meeting, which was hosted by the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives (NCAEC), is an annual program of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. It was the first major national electric cooperative conference to be held in North Carolina. Everything went smoothly throughout the meeting thanks to the efforts of folks from the electric co-ops across the state," said Dan Cook, member services specialist with NCAEC and conference coordinator.

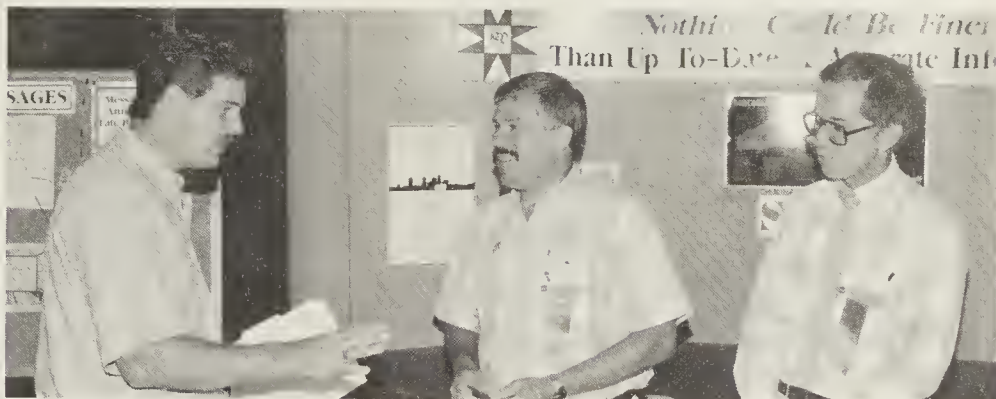
Everybody did a super job in rolling out the red carpet for our out-of-state guests. I think they showed them what Southern hospitality means."

Plans for the meeting arrangements were coordinated by a planning committee of 25 representatives of Tar Heel co-ops. "We couldn't have asked for better cooperation from the co-ops around the state," Cook

highlighted the conference was a special "Night event at the Charlotte Motor Speedway. More than 600 meeting participants and their families turned out for the occasion.



Cook, a member services specialist with the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives (NCAEC), left, chats with Ann Long of Four Corners Electric Power Association in Columbus, Georgia, during the National Member Services and Communications Conference for co-op personnel in Charlotte. Cook served as coordinator for the meeting, which was hosted by NCAEC.



Representatives of various North Carolina Electric Membership Corporations (EMCs) staffed an information desk to help guide participants through the program schedule for the recent National Rural Electric Cooperative Association conference in Charlotte. Among those involved in this and other arrangements for the meeting were, from the left, Jeffrey Lowe, member relations director at South River EMC; Gary Zajac, director of marketing and member services at Carteret-Craven EMC, Morehead City and Eddie Lail, member services manager at Haywood EMC, Waynesville.



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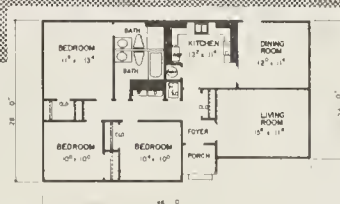
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Retirees' Tax Exemptions May Be In Jeopardy

North Carolina residents who are retired from federal service (civil service or military) or from private business can now count on the retirement deductions on their 1990 state income tax to exactly match the figures for 1989.

That's the good news. The bad news is that these deductions will be under fire in the General Assembly that will be elected in November.

In fact, the deductions barely survived the legislature's record-long "short session" earlier this year.

At issue is a 1989 law entitled "An Act To Enhance the Simplicity and Fairness of the State Income Tax System." The ratified bill, which was sponsored by Asheville Sen. Dennis Winner, had some new provisions for retirees, including the following exemptions:

Federal Retirees

(civil service and military) \$4,000

State and Local Government

Retirees \$4,000

Private Business Retirees \$2,000

These exemptions were in full force for state income tax returns (Form D-400) filed in April, 1990. But even as those returns were being filed, a bill to eliminate the deductions was being introduced in the General Assembly.

Sen. Joseph E. Johnson of Wake County proposed the change in the Senate while Rep. Milton F. Fitch of Wilson County proposed the same change in the House of Representatives.

The measure also called for another significant change. With money presumably saved by eliminating the exemptions, retirees from state and local government would receive an increase in pension payments of 7.5 percent.

The change was strongly backed by the State Employees Association of North Carolina, which had worked hard to secure its passage. It was opposed by the National Association of Retired Federal Employees and several organizations representing military service retirees.

Meanwhile, Sen. Winner introduced a bill that would keep the present deductions.

Most of the action on the proposed change came in the House, where the bill was discussed on several occasions. But repeal of the deductions never reached the floor of either the House or the Senate.

During the discussions, a House of Repre-

sentatives' "Committee Substitute" was prepared with a modified set of exemptions. This bill would reduce the \$4,000 exemption for federal state and local retirees to \$2,000 and cut the amount for private business retirees from \$2,000 to \$1,000. It also proposes raising pensions for state and local retirees in varying amounts, the largest of which was a 5.5 percent increase for most state employees.

Even this compromise never came to a vote, which means the state deductions that applied in 1989 will remain in effect for 1990.

However, backers of the change promise to renew their lobbying efforts when the lawmakers re-convene in January.

So far, the lawmakers have made no move to change the exemptions for Social Security benefits which continue to be exempt from North Carolina income tax.

In the negotiations over exemptions from state income tax, many state and federal retirees consider the retirees from private business to be "innocent bystanders" because they mounted no organized lobbying effort on the issue before the state lawmakers.

As a result, many observers were surprised when these retirees received the \$2,000 exemption in the current law.

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Law Raises Penalties For Illegal Use Of "Handicapped" Spaces

The 1990 "short session" of the North Carolina General Assembly made life a little tougher for people who park illegally in the designated spaces reserved for handicapped people.

A new state law imposes fines ranging from \$50 to \$100 for violators—a sharp increase from the \$25 fine previously imposed.

Only one of the major North Carolina municipalities had a larger fee than \$25. Charlotte, which has one of the state's most effective enforcement programs, levies a \$50 fine.

Other large cities, including Asheville, Winston-Salem, Greensboro, Raleigh and Wilmington, require \$25 fines for violations.



Handicapped North Carolinians who need to use these special spaces may obtain the distinctive "wheel chair" plates for a modest fee of \$5, after getting medical certification of their disability. Anyone needing such a plate should ask the Department of Motor Vehicles for Form MVR-37A, "Application for Handicapped Placard." (Despite the term "placard," it is a metal plate of the same size as a regular license plate.)

Legislators who backed the increased penalties for illegally using handicapped spaces expressed the hope that the larger fines will discourage able-bodied drivers from parking in the reserved spaces. Many handicapped Tar Heels complain that physically fit drivers often claim the spaces they need for convenient access.

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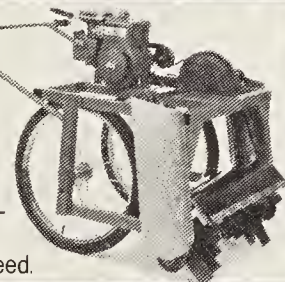
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Davidson County Farm Family Recognized For Conservation Efforts

A Davidson County farm family has been nominated for a national awards program that honors families for soil conservation and protecting water resources.

The Clarence H. Loflin family of Rt. 3, Denton, will represent North Carolina in the 1990 National Soil and Water Conservation Awards Program. They will compete with 49 other state winners for national honors.

The program is sponsored by the Good Earth Council of the National Endowment for Soil and Water Conservation and funded by the Du Pont Company.

The father-son farm family was selected for the honor in state competition for its conservation techniques, which include balancing erosion control on rolling uplands, controlling pesticide runoff and animal waste management.

The Loflins also raise corn, small grains and soybeans to support a hog/cattle operation.

The Loflins began their conservation efforts during the 1930s, using terraces built by the Civilian Conservation Corps. They experimented with other farm practices and were pioneers in the use of no-till farming.

With no-till, the Loflins plant directly into the previous year's crop residue. The stubble from the old crop acts as a shield, protecting the soil from wind and water erosion.

"By managing all aspects of the farm as a system, soil productivity and water quality are protected," the elder Loflin said.



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His conservation plan transformed 600 acres of shallow, rocky soils and sloping terrain into a productive farm operation focused on conservation.

The National Endowment for Soil and Water Conservation is a non-profit organization that promotes land stewardship.

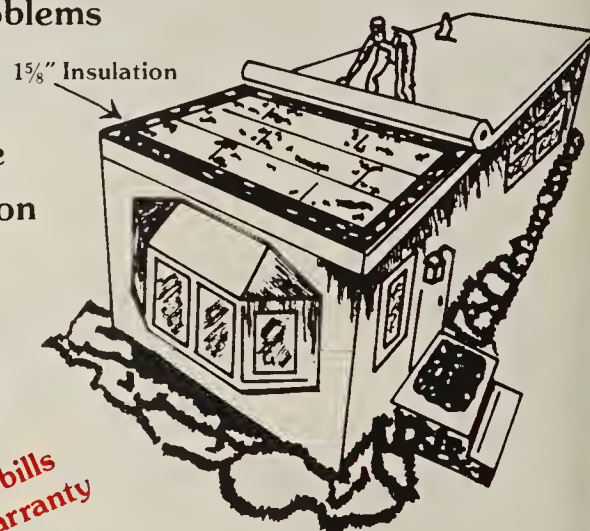
It created the Good Earth Council to assist individuals, communities and corporations that want to improve their partnership with the environment.

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A smoke detector in the home can be a saver. However, it will never serve that function if the battery in that device is dead.

A recent study by Eveready Battery Company found that 88 percent of all American homes have smoke detectors. However, only 10 percent of those homes maintain the detectors by supplying fresh batteries.

Because of this, while smoke detector sales are at an all-time high, deaths due to fires remained constant.

"A yearly smoke detector battery change is the single most convenient and accessible way to make a difference in the number of fire-related deaths and injuries," said Dave Hilton, president of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC).

Hilton added that 80 percent of fire-related deaths occur where smoke detectors have not been installed or aren't working. Studies show that non-working smoke detectors contribute to many of the country's fire-related deaths and 130,000 injuries each year.

To remedy the situation, the IAFC, the American Burn Association and Eveready are sponsoring the "Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery" program.

Under this program, consumers are encouraged to change the batteries in smoke detectors and flashlights once a year—when they change their clocks from daylight-saving to standard time.

This fall that change occurs on Oct. 28.

"A working smoke detector can double the chances of surviving a fire," said Hilton. "We all know smoke detectors save lives. What people seem to have forgotten is that even these simple pieces of equipment need routine maintenance—at least an annual change of batteries and monthly checks to make sure they're working."

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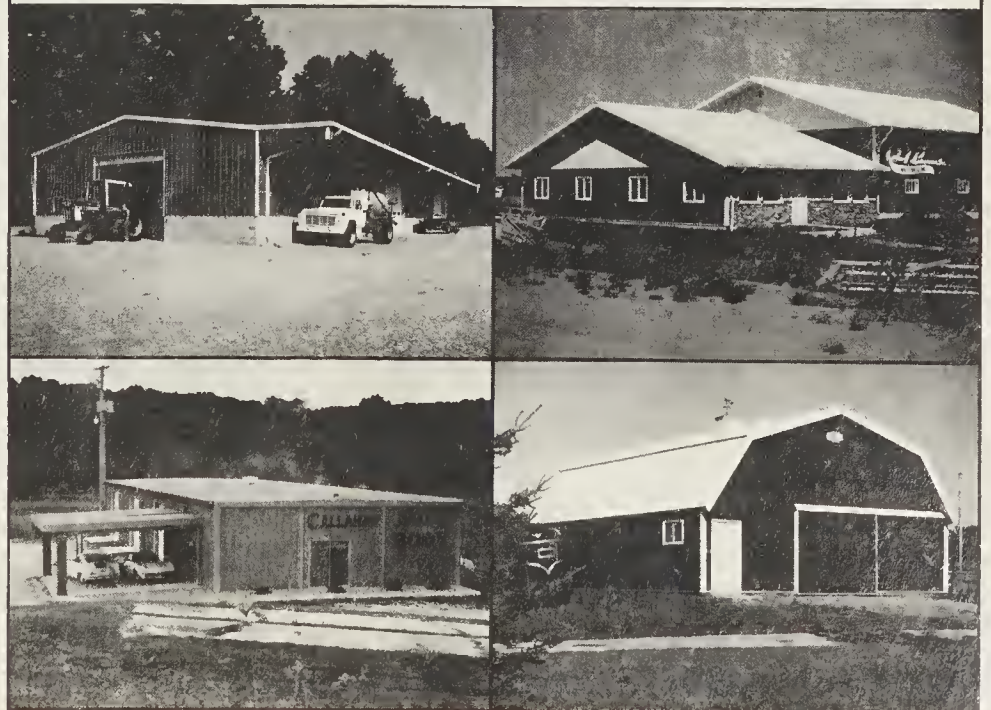
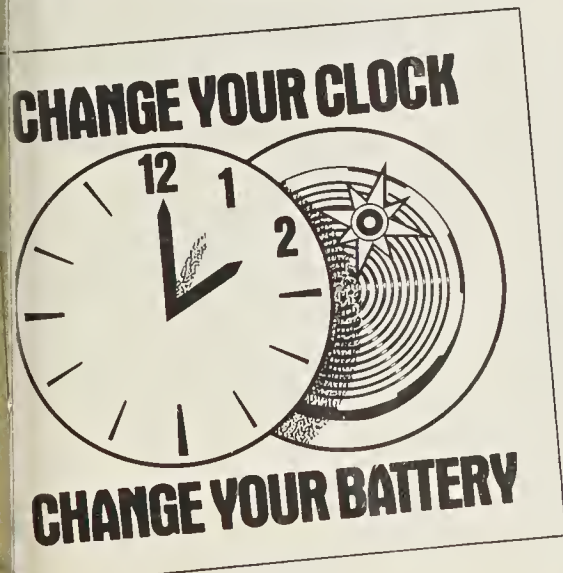
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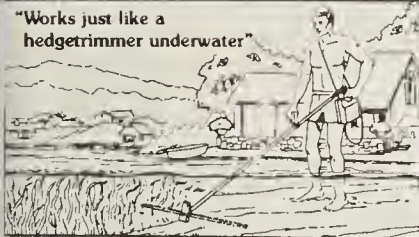
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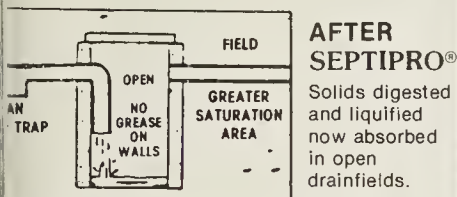
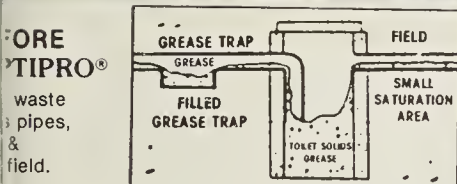
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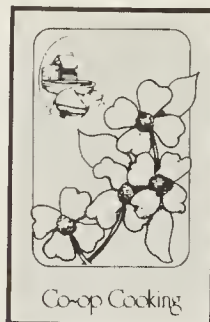
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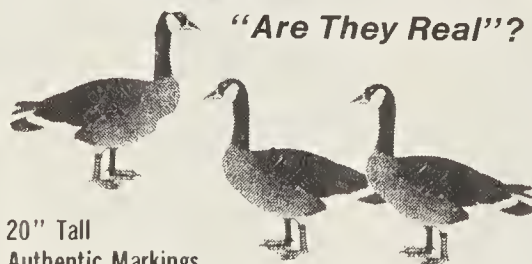
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HANK'S GARDENING GUIDE



Now's a time of transition in the garden. The faint tinge of autumn we feel in the early mornings and late afternoons is a gentle reminder that fall planting is but a few weeks away. It's a time of digging and dividing perennials; selecting spring flowering bulbs for later planting; mowing and watering as needed and continuing to spray and dust for insect and disease control.

Think Spring

For spring cut flowers, plant a few Dutch iris bulbs within the next few weeks. Their orchid-like blooms will appear soon after the earliest blooming daffodils and will be contemporaries of some of the later blooming daffodil varieties.

Now's a good time to plant Madonna lily bulbs. Set them about four inches deep in well-drained soil. Put a layer of sand in the bottom of each trench or hole. Let the base of the bulb rest on sand. This aids by providing good drainage for the bulb. Some gardeners place the bulb on its side to ensure that water does not collect in the bulb scales to cause rotting during wet periods of winter.

Plant seeds of the perennials now. Share

daisy, foxglove, hollyhock, English daisy and Canterbury bells.

Scale Control

As soon as the temperature is below 85 degrees and expected to remain so for at least two days, it will be safe to spray broadleaf evergreens with oil emulsion to control scale insects. Applied when the weather is too warm, oil sprays can damage plants.



Fall Vegetable Garden

Now's a good time to get the garden ready for early fall plantings of greens and salad crops. Mix fertilizer and organic residue into soil and prepare to plant after soil has been settled by a good soaking rain.



If you've had nematode problems in your garden, treat the infected areas with an approved nematocide or fumigant. Follow package instructions for the amount to use and proper method of application.

Plant carrots, beets, chard, mustard, onions (sets or seeds), turnips, radishes and lettuce.

For best germination of lettuce and other small seeds, keep the soil moist and cool with daily sprinklings.



Feed Roses

Help roses to extend their blooming season well into the fall by giving them their last feeding of the year.

Sprinkle a teaspoon of 8-8-8 or commercially available rose food in a circle around each plant. Water in the fertilizer.

You'll want to continue to be on the alert for black spot and mildew—spray often if necessary.

Garden Compost

Of continuing importance is the gardening practice of composting leaves and other garden refuse. If you don't have a compost pile, now's a good time to start one. Leaves soon will be falling.

Locate the compost bed in an out-of-the-way area that's still convenient to areas of gardening activities. Build a frame of wire, boards, bricks or concrete to contain the leaves and other vegetative materials as they become available.

Grinders, compost hasteners, fertilizer and lime all help to decompose the compost pile—making it available for garden use next spring.

When using fertilizer and/or lime, make layers of compost with the material sprinkled in between. Vegetable and scraps from the kitchen may be added to the compost. Do not include meat scraps, grease or bones.

Dahlias

The best part of the dahlia season is from now until frost. They need ample moisture, cool nights and cool nights they make rapid growth and many blooms. Plants should be staked and tied. Large-flowered exhibition dahlias should be disbudded in order to produce super-size show blooms.



HANK'S GARDENING GUIDE

By Hank Smith

Up And Rake
Remove all dead leaves from plants; remove all litter from dead plants. To look or ignore tidying up is to encourage overwintering of disease and pest organisms. Perennial veronica and phlox have ended their prime, bring them back, water. If fertilizer has been applied recently, give them a before watering. They will be rewarded with masses of fall

Remove old faded blooms of vitex, oleander (butterfly), althea and myrtle. This prevents seed formation and aids in keeping plants in bloom well into winter.

Mums
Continue to lightly pinch chrysanthemums each week until color is in the flowers. Add one teaspoon of complete liquid fertilizer per gallon of water, give each plant

If you're growing large standard "football" mums, stake plants to prevent wind damage. Also, continue to disbudding standards.

Inspect all plants for virus infection. Pull out and destroy any diseased mums as the virus can spread throughout the bed. An insect that has fed on an infected plant can carry the virus to a healthy one. Continue spraying with a good insecticide because insects are more prevalent during the hot, dry days of late summer.

For long-lasting cut flowers, choose blooms that are about half open. Cut them in early morning or late afternoon. Carry a bucket of water into the garden. Cut long stems with a sharp knife. Plunge stems immediately into water and let them stand for about 15 minutes. Then recut stems under water. This forces water up into the hollow stems. This treatment (called hardening off) makes the flowers hold up longer.



Timely Tips

1. Establish new lawns or seed bare spots with fescue in late September or early October.
2. Divide any perennials that have become crowded. This includes hosta, daylily and perennial phlox.
3. Begin to move houseplants back indoors. Check for insect problems and control any present with insecticide spray.
4. Start pansies now if you grow your own. Sow seeds; cover with thin layer of peat moss; keep soil moist with daily watering.
5. Have soil tested by Agricultural Extension Service.
6. Start cool season vegetables or set out transplants now.
7. Lift and reset Easter lily bulbs.
8. Check azaleas and pyracanthas for lacebugs. There will be small black dots on the back side of leaves. Control by spraying with a recommended insecticide.
9. Begin gathering plant materials to dry for use in winter arrangements indoors.

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North Carolina: "A Big Spender"

If you don't believe that North Carolina is a big spender of your tax dollars, take a hard look at the percentage increase in state and local government total expenditures, per capita, of the top eight states in the country (Fiscal year 1982 to fiscal year 1988).

<i>The Top Eight States</i>	<i>Percentage Of Increase</i>
Connecticut	73.2
New Jersey	63.8
Arizona	62.1
Massachusetts	60.5
North Carolina	60.1
New York	59.9
Texas	58.7
Virginia	57.5
U. S. Average	48.8
<i>Other States</i>	
Delaware	48.1
Pennsylvania	44.7
Maryland	42.2

Source: This information was published in *The Wall Street Journal* based on data published by the U. S. Census Bureau.

*Coy Mercer Jr.
Route 1, Albertson*

Magazine Offers "A Great Service"

We of the Waxhaw Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad want to extend a heartfelt thank you for printing the information and photo regarding our 10th Annual Waxhaw Car Show. We really appreciate it.

The service *Carolina Country* does for organizations in printing notices of events is truly a great service. Thank you!

*Joyce Blythe
Waxhaw*

Tar Heels' "Rights and Privileges" Are Now Eroding Away

During the past few years I've watched the rights and privileges of the citizens of North Carolina erode away. A few cases in point:

(1) Cities make random grabs of real

estate under annexation, without the vote of the people being annexed. When Hitler did it we thought it was wrong—same goes for North Korea when they did it. What is really sick is that the new papers support this outrage.

(2) North Carolina is going to put a hazardous waste incinerator in either Granville or Iredell-Rowan Counties, when there are hundreds of square miles of worthless land that could be used without affecting thousands of people. Why select those sites? It's for the mercenaries' convenience. Make it cheap and easy for the trash men to get to.

(3) North Carolina won't let your spouse get into your bank lockbox until the death is probated. What earthly right do they have to freeze and go through your personal belongings?

(4) Every poll indicates that 65 percent of the people of North Carolina support a state lottery for needed revenue, yet, the State Representatives would prefer to represent the 35 percent who believe it's kinder to increase the tax on the poor families' food and clothes.

F.D.R. said it best sixty years ago—we need a New Deal.

The "N. C. Shuffle" has not been fair to the average citizen. The citizens of North Carolina do not even have the right to petition for referendum.

We need a Co-operative Political Action Committee, one that demand true representative government in Raleigh. The newspapers are interested only in their first amendment rights—not ours.

We must use the network of talk radio shows to galvanize ourselves into a political bloc. We've got to stop voting for incumbents. We've got to stop voting the 'party' line. We have to ignore our church and club members who ignore us on sensitive issues.

If you like being kicked around, ignore me. If not, contact me Statesville.

*John J. Danc
1828 Little John Rd
Statesville, NC 28686
(704) 876-3*

Magazine "Has Been A Tremendous Help" In Promoting Exhibits At Arts And Science Center In Statesville

Carolina Country has been a tremendous help by including our events in your magazine. Many statewide visitors mention reading your articles about some special exhibit at The Arts & Science Center and the coverage has brought them in to visit us.

I especially enjoy the "Here, There & Everywhere" column because the cover prints are the best!

Thanks again for helping us get the word out across the state to keep up the good work with your wonderful "downhome" publication. It is greatly appreciated!

Rita Rhodes

Mrs. Rhodes is executive director of the Arts and Science Center in Statesville.



BOOKS

Voices from Home by Neil Caudle. G. P. Putnam's
1989. 304 Pages. \$19.95.

Libby Lampert is not an easy character to like. She lies about her stepfather in order to get away from moving to Chicago with her mother. Though she adores her father, she doesn't find much to like with him and her stepmother any more than living with her mother, and uses her weapons in an obnoxious teenager's arsenal to make her stepmother miserable. It took me awhile to care enough about her to get angry with her when she repeatedly found new ways to get into trouble. But I know she is real. I have taught dozens of girls like

Neil Caudle of Hillsborough does a magnificent job of letting us see the world through Libby's eyes. Though adults won't approve of the choices Libby makes, they make sense to her. Libby's parents don't know how to help her and she's already been labeled as "incorrigible." Eventually Libby realizes that she must grow up on her own. Set in a North Carolina mountain town dominated by a furniture factory, Caudle's first novel captures the details of modern adolescence.

Voices from Home speaks for all the children who are shunted from home to home and from one agency to another in our society. If we took more time to listen to their voices, perhaps they would make better choices.

—Phyllis Hacken Johnson

Log Cabin The Western North Carolina Backroads by Carolyn Sakowski. Winston-Salem, John F. 1990. 305 Pages. \$14.95.

If you have ever wished to drink in the scenic beauty and escape the crowds in the mountains of western North Carolina, you should find this book extremely helpful.

The author, a native of Morganton who is intimately acquainted with both paved and unpaved roads in the western part of our state, takes the reader on 21 tours, each covering a large geographic area. There's a Chief of the Ka Tour, a Highlands Tour, a Hickory Nut Gorge Tour, etc. Federal and state (primary and

secondary) numbers and forest road numbers are provided for each tour. All offer opportunities for seeing unspoiled landscapes.

Drawing from local histories and early travel writings, Carolyn Sakowski designed each tour as a journey through the history of the area. Tales of eccentric characters, folklore and stories about early settlers combine to present a perspective that brings the scenery to life. The tours are intended for motorists, but they don't overlook enjoyable hikes and other recreational activities which might go unnoticed because they are off the beaten path.

The author steers clear of interstates and four-lane highways. Each tour includes a full-page map and small black-and-white photos to illustrate what may be seen along the route. The appendix includes names and addresses of agencies that can provide additional information about the region.

This volume seeks to recapture some of the flavor of this region's past. The book can bring the traveler of these backroads closer to the history, people and beauty of western North Carolina.

—Al Stewart

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Co-op Organization Honors 4-H Contest Winner

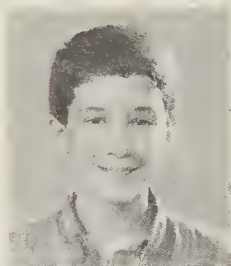
Youths from Ashe, Polk, Onslow and Stokes Counties won state honors in the 4-H electric and home environment/home energy presentation contests during the recent North Carolina 4-H Congress in Raleigh.

Each winner received an award from the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives (NCAEC), which has supported the contest program in this way for more than 20 years.

Todd Bowman of Rt. 5, King, won honors in the electric presentation junior division, and Brad Shepard of Rt. 4, Jacksonville, won the senior division of the electric presentation contest.

Wesley Wolfe of Tryon won the junior division of the home environment/home energy contest, and Amy Goodman of Crumpler won the home environment/home energy presentation contest senior division.

Bowman, 12, son of Mr. and Mrs. Terry Bowman, won with a presentation titled "Make An E-Z Match Game." He used electricity to operate and construct an educational game.



"It's an electric board game," said Bowman. "I have different pictures and names on the board. You use insulated test clips to

touch bolts holding pictures to the board. Then, you do the same thing to the name you think matches the picture. A wire connects the picture and name underneath. If the picture and name match, a light comes on when they are touched."

He got the idea for his project from his brother, who had competed in the electric competition before, winning and going on to 4-H Electric Congress.

"He told me how much fun Electric Congress was, so I decided to try a project to see if I could go to Electric Congress," he said.

He has been a 4-H member for seven years. Last year, he competed in the junior electric presentation division and was runner-up. Before that, he was runner-up then winner in the junior dog demonstration category.

Bowman won a \$100 savings bond from the NCAEC.

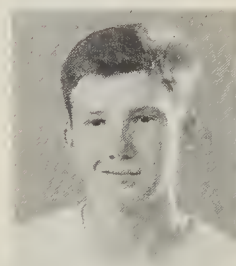
Brad Shepard, 17, son of Terry and Peggy Shepard, titled his presentation "Reacting to Electricity."

"The highlight of the demonstration was focusing on nuclear power and future sources of energy," he said. "I used a nuclear power plant model and talked about the different energy sources for future generations."

Shepard, who is interested in a career in nuclear engineering, illustrated his project with a model made of scraps of soft-drink bottles, tubing and cardboard.

"I believe we are running out of available sources of electricity, so we need to look to other sources. We need to invest more in making nuclear power safer."

For his win, Shepard won a \$150 savings bond and a trip to the Eastern National 4-H Engineering Event from the NCAEC. The event is scheduled for Sept. 23-25 in Richmond, VA.



Wesley Wolfe, 12, son of Robert and Nina Wolfe, used a school science project on radon to win his contest. He explained the risk of lung cancer from radon, a naturally occurring radioactive soil gas that can build to dangerous levels in buildings.

"Radon is the cause of 2,000 to 20,000 deaths a year. You can't see it, taste it or smell it. That's why you have to test for it," Wolfe said.

He talked about the three different kinds of radon tests: charcoal canister, alpha track and direct sample. He also discussed how a home can be made safe if high levels of radon are found.

Wolfe received a \$50 savings bond from NCAEC.

Amy Goodman, 14, daughter of Mack and Glenda Goodman, explained how to recycle home garbage in her presentation titled "Home Garbage Monsters."

"I must admit that this recycling project took work," said Goodman. "I should thank my mother and father for putting up with all of the garbage in our living room."

She explained that she did her presentation on recycling because "it is something everyone needs to do, not just for a couple of extra dollars, but for the environment."

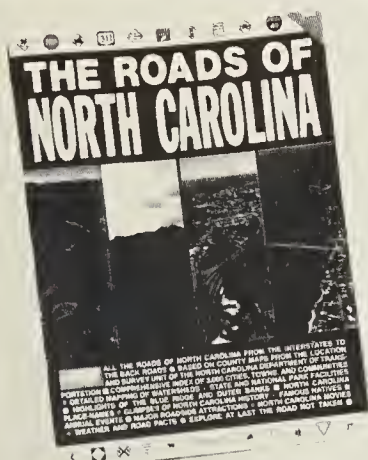
As part of her demonstration she saved a week's worth of her family's garbage and showed what could be recycled and how it was done.

Goodman, who has been in 4-H for three years, also received a savings bond from NCAEC.

Some 800 youths and 100 adult volunteers and extension agents attended the 4-H Congress July 16-20 at North Carolina State University. The 4-H program is conducted by the Agricultural Extension Service at NCSU and N. C. A & T University.

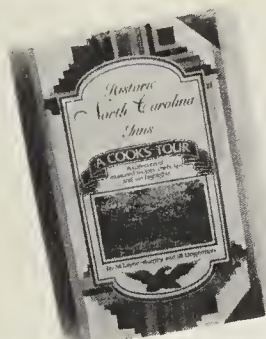


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A Touching Tale Of The REA 'Adventure'

In the profiles on pages 12-13, two Tar Heel co-op pioneers vividly recall the early days of North Carolina's rural electrification movement.

Kesler C. Butler of Cumberland County and Joe Pendry of Yadkin County, who have each completed a half-century of service to the co-op program, became part of that movement as young farmers who were eager to see the benefits of electric power extended into the countryside.

They knew the drudgery of rural life without electricity—and threw themselves into local efforts to provide power through member-owned cooperatives with loans from the Rural Electrification Administration (REA).

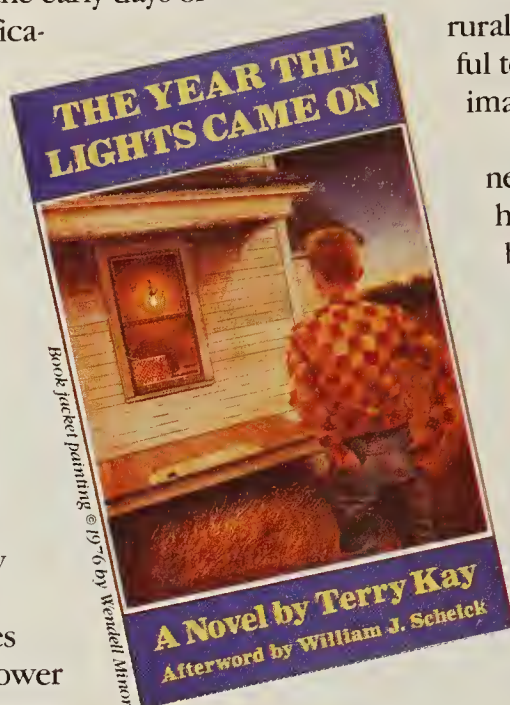
For them and their generation, the year "the lights came on" clearly symbolizes the beginning of a new era for rural people. For younger folks who didn't live through that transition, it can be little more than a footnote from the pages of history.

"We have a generation that doesn't know about hand pumps and oil lamps," said Butler. "We need to educate them about what rural electrification has done."

The challenge will come in finding ways to make that history lively, appealing and meaningful to this generation.

A Georgia writer took an important step in that direction several years ago in writing a novel about what he calls "the adventure of electricity in rural America" in the late 1940s.

In *The Year The Lights Came On*, Terry Kay tells the tale of 11-year-old Colin Wynn and his hometown of Emery, GA, a community that's divided into haves and have-nots—those who have electricity and those who don't. When "the REA" brings power to the have-nots, Colin says the wires will "knit us into the fabric of the huge glittering, costume, Earth."



In the book's "author's note", Kay said he concentrated on making the book convey the mood of that period in the history of the rural South. In addition, he said he "attempted to remain faithful to those sensations of awe and innocence that visited our imaginations—the year the lights came on."

Kay, who grew up in the northeastern corner of Georgia near the Hartwell Dam, is now a full-time writer who makes his home in Lilburn, GA. For many years, he worked on books while also handling public relations duties with the Oglethorpe Power Corporation, a generating and transmission cooperative serving Electric Membership Corporations throughout the Peach State.

The Year The Lights Came On was originally published by Houghton Mifflin in 1976 and later as a Bantam paperback. It was out of print for years until the University of Georgia Press re-issued it last year as part of a series of books about Georgia and the South.

It was recommended for the series by one of the publisher's authors, William J. Scheick, who is a member of the English faculty at the University of Texas at Austin.

In an "Afterword" he wrote for the new edition, Scheick said, "*The Year The Lights Came On*, however neglected by literary critics, is an important, rich contribution to American literature."

He added that the book is a "provocative work of art that is philosophically intellectual and, simultaneously, deeply felt, touchingly evocative and utterly unforgettable."

Such high praise should be enough to put the book on lots of "recommended reading" lists—including those teachers often hand out to their students along with work assignments.

The book is available through bookstores but can be ordered from the publisher. The paperback edition is \$9.95; the hardcover, \$25. Add \$3.00 for shipping on mail orders. Send your order to The University of Georgia Press, Athens, GA 30602.

Discounts are available for bulk orders. For details, call the press at (404) 542-2830.

Colonial 'Bar And Grill' Served Only Spirits

Did you know that a "bar and grill" was often a major attraction at early colonial inns? It was literally a bar where alcoholic drinks were served. No food of any kind was offered. The "grill" referred to a grate or grille that was pulled down to the bar when spirits were not being served. This allowed the innkeeper to conveniently lock up his costly liquor supply.



GRITS

's Live From Atlantic City: Miss America and 'Bigfoot'

Jeanne Robertson, the former Miss North Carolina we wrote about in the July issue, has been selected to serve as a preliminary judge in this year's Miss America pageant. The finals were slated for Sept. 8. Publicity about her book, *Humor: The Magic of Genie*, inspired pageant officials to give her the invitation, she said in a recent note. "I've never been back to the pageant so it should be interesting and fun and, of course, I'll be looking for humor."

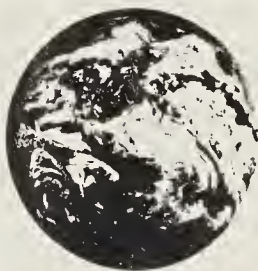
The 6-foot-2 beauty, who won the Miss Teen America title in the 1963 Miss America pageant, said the preliminary judges "are not the people who stand on Saturday night and dance at the world. We are in Atlantic City for the week and judge all interviews and preliminary competition. The 'celebrity judges' will be on Saturday and from our Top Ten list of Miss America."

"Shucks, I probably won't even get on the list. But if you are watching the pageant and see a hand or large foot inching away s-l-o-w-l-y into the corner of your eye, think of me."

Jeanne, now a popular professional speaker, said the book has been quite a hit, with more than 5,000 copies sold. "This accomplishment so soon after the publication date is due in no small way to the readers you wrote in the July issue of *Carolina Country*. The telephone hasn't stopped ringing since that issue reached your readers. I never know how much I appreciated your interest and support. Thank you."

Timing It Up At Halftime

Ever hear of a "Kiss a Pig" Contest? Residents at two Marion, VA, area high schools held such a contest not long ago to support the Highlands Chapter of the American Diabetes Association. Patrick Henry High School students got to see their chosen school official kiss a pig during halftime at a homecoming football game. The diabetes group took home a prize of \$1,600.

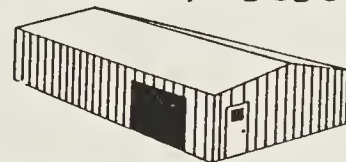


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Wednesday, October 17
Clint Black

Saturday, October 13
The Platters

Thursday, October 18
The Desert Rose Band

Sunday, October 14
Jerry Clower & Gold City

Friday, October 19
Vern Gosdin

Monday, October 15
Garth Brooks

Saturday, October 20
Michael Damian

Tuesday, October 16
Patty Loveless

Sunday, October 21
Ronnie Milsap

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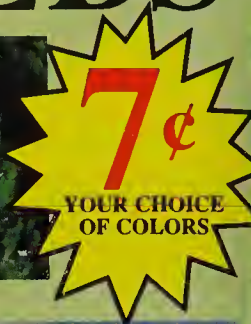
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Best of all, you pay less than 7¢ a bulb... that's 7 dozen tulips for only \$5.49, 14 dozen for just \$10.79. Every item on this page is protected by our famous **Double Guarantee**. You must be satisfied on arrival or you may return it within 15 days for a **full refund**. We guarantee many blooms next spring, normal bloom the second season or replacement is **free** (3 year limit). Planting instructions included on all selections!

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Garden space limited? These lovely and unique Branching Tulips provide more dense color per square foot than any other variety. Each bulb produces a stem displaying 1-4, sometimes even 5 off-stem blooms for a mass of vivid, vibrant beauty in a compact space. Add one color bright flaming red, Holland imported, (3 cm.). Blooms year after year without replanting. Order yours today!



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Creeping Phlox turns problem areas into seas of floral beauty! Covers the ground with dense evergreen foliage drenched in a mass of sensational blooms. Creeping Phlox provides the perfect perennial ground cover! Michigan nursery grown in striking mixed colors as available.



DUTCH HYACINTHS
4 FOR \$3.99

Add a touch of variety to your spring garden with colorful Dutch Hyacinths. Groups of delicate flowers form their teardrop shape in soft pastel mixed colors. Delightfully fragrant, Dutch Hyacinths bloom year after year without replanting. Imported from Holland (average 5 1/2" circ.).



CROCUS
15 FOR \$2.99

The plucky Crocus is usually the first to bloom in spring, sometimes pushing its delicate goblet-shaped flowers right up through the snow! This exciting mix includes a rainbow of vibrant colors. Each Holland-imported Crocus bulb averages 5 cm. up. Buy several for your landscape today.

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		Double Order- Get 2 collections, 14 doz. in all - \$10.79	
	480	Tulips, red	
	481	Tulips, orange	
	482	Tulips, yellow	(Indicate how many dozen per color, 84¢ per dozen - min. 4 doz. for \$3.36)
	483	Tulips, pink	
	484	Tulips, purple	
	485	Tulips, white	
	486	Tulips, 2-tone	
	114	Daffodils (10 for \$2.99 - 20 for \$5.79)	
	124	Crocus (15 for \$2.99 - 30 for \$5.79)	
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6	FREE	Grape Hyacinths if order received by November 1	0.00
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6	FREE	Sunny Twinkles (plus 6 Pink Debut Bulbs), if order totals \$10.00	0.00
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